

DEMAND XXIV—Medical.

Mr. N. Ramamurti : I request for an additional grant of Rs. 2,500 under Demand XVI—Transport Department. At the time of the preparation of the budget for the current year, provision had not been made for payment of Travelling Allowance to the members of the Transport Advisory Committee. This has now to be paid and so I request that the House may be pleased to grant the same.

The question that Government be granted a sum of Rs. 2,500 under Demand XVI—State Transport Department, was put and carried.

The demand was passed and grant was made.

DEMAND XVII—Education.

Mr. B. Paramu : I rise to move for a grant of B. Rs. 50,000 under Demand XVII—Education.

Dr. Alagappa Chettiar of Madras has offered to make an endowment of Rs. 1,50,000 for the institution of a Chair in Research in the University of Travancore and the payment is made in monthly instalments of Rs. 4,000 and odd. Government have undertaken to make an equal contribution for the purpose, in view of the possibilities of mineral research in the State. A sum of B. Rs. 50,000 is necessary to meet the Government's contribution for the current year. I request that this amount may be sanctioned.

President : I must make this matter clear. Dr. Alagappa Chettiar of Madras offered to make a contribution for a research in mineral sands. After a discussion on the subject, this was decided upon. He offered to pay a certain sum. It was put to him that it would be much better if he would pay so much per month so that the research may be conducted for three or five years, after which it may be stopped. This was suggested because, the interest on the lump sum endowment would not be sufficient to finance the scheme. He has accordingly paid Rs. 50,000 and this Government have to make an equal contribution now.

The question that Government be granted a sum of B. Rs. 50,000 under Demand XVII—Education was put and carried.

The demand was passed and the grant was made.

DEMAND XXIV.—Medical.

Mr. C. P. Gopala Panicker : I beg to move for a grant of Rs. 62,015 under Demand XXIV—Medical.

[Mr. C. P. Gopalapanicker.]

The first item of the allotment, viz., for Rs. 56,000 is for the payment of arrears of pay, allowance etc., to the menials of the department. Their pay and allowances were recently revised in accordance with the general revision of salaries. The provision in the budget is not sufficient to meet the expenditure.

Mr. K. S. Joseph : Why is it not sufficient?

Mr. C. P. Gopala Panicker : At the time of the framing of the budget, orders in regard to the revision of salaries had not been passed. It was only after the budget was framed, that orders in regard to the Medical Department subordinates were passed. So it was not possible to include this item in the budget. So I request that the House may be pleased to sanction the amount. In regard to the other item of Rs. 6,015, as the honourable members of the House know that Mr. P. T. Thomas of Palampadom voluntarily constructed a pay ward in the District Hospital, Kottayam, at an expense of over Rs. 25,000 wherein the Government had promised to give a free supply of timber. The Conservator of Forests supplied the necessary timber to the value of Rs. 6,015 and requested the Medical Department to make the payment. There is no provision in the Budget of the Medical Department to make that payment to the Forest Department. This amount is asked for the purpose of making a book adjustment. So I request the House to sanction the Demand.

The question that Government be granted a sum of Rs. 62,015 under Demand XXIV—Medical was put to vote and carried.

The demand was passed and the grant was made.

DEMAND XXVI—Public Health and Sanitation.

Mr. C. P. Gopala Panicker : Sir, I rise to move for supplementary grant of Rs. 5,500 under Demand XXVI—Public Health and Sanitation. This amount is for the continuance of the Milk Canteen Scheme till the end of 1121. The House knows that the American Government and the Indian Red Cross organisation gave us some milk for free distribution in the State. This Government have to meet the cost of transport and also the cost of the staff engaged for distributing the quantity of milk in the State. In the budget there is provision only for staff till the end of September 1945. Believing that there would not be any more quantity left for distribution, no additional provision was made. But later on the Red Cross Society gave us some more milk. Such being the case, the distribution had to be continued. It is therefore proposed to continue the distribution of the milk till the end of the current year.